

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the abstract of the invention with the following:

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a receiver circuit having an optical receiving device, a plurality of amplifiers that are connected to the receiving device, and circuit means or a control circuit for individually activating and deactivating the individual amplifiers. In this case, the amplifiers each differ from one another in at least one parameter such as gain, and only one amplifier is activated at a given point in time, while the other amplifiers are deactivated. The invention makes it possible to match the receiver circuit to widely varying transmission rates.